

The Rock

*Serving the almost
6,000 employees on Arsenal Island*



April 2004

Volume 3, Number 3

CSA ★★★★★ Visit



Schoomaker thanks Arsenal employees

The top-ranking officer in the U.S. Army visited Arsenal Island April 7.

During the visit, Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker thanked Arsenal employees for their contributions to military operations in Iraq and elsewhere, and learned more about the missions and functions carried out on the Arsenal.

"This is something different," Gen. Schoomaker said about the war on terrorism. "But we have to keep the faith and believe in

what we're doing. The men and women in our military need your support. I know you share the pride we have for them." Gen. Schoomaker also stressed the importance to support military families who have loved ones overseas.

Gen. Schoomaker serves as Chief of Staff of the Army, a position he has held since Aug. 1, 2003.

Gen. Schoomaker's visit to the Arsenal was the second by an Army

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'We're supporting the line'

As many of you know, I recently returned from Southwest Asia after a two-month tour that included time in Kuwait and Iraq. You will be proud to know that the Arsenal is well represented in theater.

There are over 60 employees from various Arsenal activities including the Army Field Support Command, Joint Munitions Command, Corps of Engineers and Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center, just to name a few.

We are providing critical logistics support to our men and women in uniform, from strategic sustainment operations to the installation of HMMWV armor doors. Everywhere you look you can see the combined efforts of Rock Island Arsenal — the

prepositioned equipment that was issued, the munitions that are being sent into theater, the rebuilding of the Iraqi infrastructure, the life support to all the deployed personnel, and the modification and maintenance of vehicles — just to name a few. And our support efforts reach throughout the theater, from Kuwait and Iraq and into Afghanistan.

Every person deployed to the theater is touched in some way by the efforts of a Rock Island Arsenal employee.

But that's not surprising. Whenever America has called, the Arsenal has always been there. In 1918, during a speech at the Arsenal, the Honorable A.F. Dawson said that, "... the very soul of every man and



**Col. Mike Mullins
Commander**

woman at Rock Island Arsenal is wrapped up in every gun, every tool, and every piece of equipment . . ." That statement is as true today as it was then.

On the front page *(photos by Tony Lopez)*

Top: Gen. Peter Schoomaker, Army Chief of Staff, inspects the armored doors for the Humvees that the Arsenal is currently producing. Alan Wilson (back left), Deputy to the Commander, and Rick Lorenzen, RIA Program Manager Division Chief, look on.

Bottom: Benny Wild, RIA Special Operations Officer, shows Gen. Schoomaker the Surge Brake Actuator Kits that the Arsenal designed and built to retrofit 6,700 deadlined High Mobility Trailers.



The Rock

THE ROCK is an unofficial publication for members of the Rock Island Arsenal community. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Arsenal or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of THE ROCK is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office, Rock Island Arsenal. Contributions to the ROCK are welcome: Postal address: Commander, Rock Island Arsenal, RIA-PA, Rock Island, IL 61299-5000. E-mail address: RIA-PA@ria.army.mil. Phone: 309-782-1121. The circulation of the ROCK is approximately 3,000. The ROCK is available on-line at the Rock Island website at www.ria.army.mil.

Rock Island Arsenal

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Arsenal recognized for wastewater treatment

by Gale Smith
Public Affairs Officer

On Feb 27, the City of Rock Island recognized the Rock Island Arsenal for excellent compliance for the industrial pretreatment of wastewater at a ceremony in the council chambers of Rock Island City Hall.

Alderman Dan Rockwell presented the award to Mr. Chuck Swynenberg, RIA Environmental Coordinator, who accepted on behalf of the entire Arsenal.

The award is recognition of a job well done in maintaining compliance with the federally mandated industrial pretreatment program. International Truck and Engine Corporation, Johnson Oil Company, McLaughlin

Body Company, Miller Container Corporation, R & O Specialties, Inc. and Swords Veneer and Lumber Company joined RIA in receiving recognition for excellent compliance.

The USEPA mandated Industrial Pretreatment Program requires certain types of industries and other industries of concern to pretreat their wastewater prior to discharge into the sewer system.

Municipalities are typically given the responsibility of administering the federal program at the local level.

Pretreatment of industrial wastewater helps protect the sewer system, wastewater treatment plant operations, and the health of receiving waters.

New Chief



Larry Blocker is the new Police Chief in Force Protection. Blocker has been with the Arsenal for 30 years and has held the rank of captain since 1985.

Spring brings major construction to Arsenal

by Gale Smith
Public Affairs Officer

Major reconfiguration of the Arsenal entrance at the Moline side of the island began April 5. The reconfiguration project has reduced the entrance and exit to one lane each way and changed the Moline gate hours to 4:30 a.m. through 10 p.m. seven days per week.

"This reconfiguration will be a major improvement for our Force Protection program and significantly improve traffic flow at the Moline Gate," said Tom Meyer, Director of Force Protection. Between 2,500 and 3,000 vehicles go through the gate on an average day.

Due to the construction, the hours at the Davenport Gate have been extended to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Rock Island gate hours remain 4:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with the same hours on the weekend for commercial delivery only.

Visitor Control, which had been in building 23, has been moved into temporary accommodations on the north side of the Clock Tower building in the Clock Tower parking lot. Visitor control is open 6:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. There are 12 dedicated parking spaces for RIA Visitors adjacent to the temporary accommodations.

The Moline entrance work includes demolishing the existing gate and constructing new concrete curb islands, lanes, guard houses, a canopy, guard rails and paving the area. Prospect Drive will be repaved and a curb and gutter added from Rodman Avenue to the front of building 23. A new truck turnaround inspection area will be constructed and paved.

Throughout the construction period, temporary access will be maintained for the new golf driving range and there will be alternative entry to Building 25 and the proving grounds.

The construction is scheduled to be completed sometime in late August.

Other Construction

From April 5 through the end of June, King Drive will be repaired. The existing pavement will be demolished and replaced from the intersection of King Drive and East Avenue to King Drive and Rodman Avenue. However, on Mondays through Fridays the Child Development Centers in buildings 11 and 16 will be accessible from East Avenue and King Drive.

Renovation to the third floor of building 60 began in Feb-

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Back in full swing



photo by Allen Marshall

Barge season reopened officially March 15. The Government Bridge swing span underwent several repairs over the winter months. The span is once again capable of making 360-degree turns as opposed to the 180-degree turns it had been limited to in recent years. This capability should reduce the amount of time the swing span remains open during a typical barge lock-through.

Commissary sells groceries at cost

FORT LEE, Va. – No pain, no gain is a common expression. Bargain hunters go from grocery store to grocery store seeking the best buys – but they may also end up paying more for other items that aren't on sale. A lot of pain, not much gain. Why do all that when DeCA commissaries sell groceries at cost, saving authorized customers an average of 30 percent or more over commercial grocery prices.

The prices paid by commissary customers for grocery items equals the government's cost for those items.

That's a benefit that is now worth about \$2,700 a year to a military family of four that shops regularly at a commissary.

Like any commercial grocery store, commissaries also have unadvertised "sales" on hundreds of products on any given day, according to Scott Simpson, chief operating officer at DeCA.

Customers can find out what's on sale at their local commissary by accessing the savings aisle in the shopping section of DeCA's Web site: <http://www.commissaries.com>. Prices aren't listed, but it's a safe bet that if the items are on sale, the prices are going to be below average commissary prices and well below commercial grocery store prices.

Commissary customers get an additional break by not paying any sales tax when shopping at the commissary. In some locations, that can amount to sizeable savings.

There is one cost born by customers. A 5-percent surcharge, mandated by Congress, is added at the register on the total grocery bill before coupons are deducted. Commissary customer satisfaction surveys consistently rank the commissary as the number one military benefit.

Construction *continued from Page 3*

ruary. As a result, the passenger elevator and the southwest stairwell are closed for access to third floor. The courtyard of building 61 is closed except for the two handicapped spots at the north end of the lot.

There will be significant construction in and around building 390 this year from April through December. The project will replace all windows in the building. East Pershing Avenue will be removed and the entire area will be reconfigured to meet force protection requirements. The north parking lot will be closed.

Handicapped access to building 390 will be at the same location but personnel will need to use the sidewalk along the south and east sides of the building to get to the east courtyard.

The final repairs to the concrete exterior of building 350 will start this spring when weather permits. Once the concrete work is completed, RIA will have contractor paint the east face of the building so that it will match the other sides. During the construction and painting, temporary walkways will provide safe egress into the building along the south-east side of the building.

Renovation is also on going on the first floor of the west wing of building 131. The exterior work will begin along the west side when weather permits. New sidewalks, green areas and landscaping will be installed and should be completed in May.

Keep in safety in mind and be on the look out for barricades and caution tape. A lot will be going on.

ASPI builds on success of ARMS initiative

by Daryl Howlett
AFSC/JMC Public
Communications

In the Army, one good program deserves - or, in the case of the Armament Retooling and Manufacturing Support program, inspires - yet another.

Because of the success of ARMS in reducing the costs associated with operating and maintaining Army ammunition plants, Congress enacted the Arsenal Support Program Initiative in 2001 to decrease the overhead costs of running the Army's arsenals.

ASPI was modeled on the ARMS program, which has generated more than \$300 million in economic benefits to the communities surrounding the plants, said Garry Eichorn, action officer for the ARMS/ASPI Program at JMC Headquarters.

Through the ARMS program, tenant income arrangements at six ammunition plants resulted in paying all operating and maintenance costs for the installations.

The consulting firm PriceWaterhouseCoopers has validated that ARMS produced \$220 million in savings, more than 250 new tenants at Army ammunition plants, and 3,400 new jobs. In addition, private investment at the plants has exceeded \$200 million.

Steve Mapley, director of the ARMS/ASPI program, said that ARMS has been winning awards since 1998. In October 2003, the program was presented with the "Global Innovations by New Players in Corporate Real Estate" award at the CoreNet Global Summit conference in Atlanta. The ARMS program also received the Secretary of Defense's "Defense Acquisition Executive Certificate of Achievement" in June 2003.

"Because of the success of ARMS program, Congress gave the push to go

ahead and offer idle or unused facilities on arsenals for commercial use by enacting ASPI," Mr. Eichorn said. "With the program, you have three phases: You have a crawling phase, a walking phase, and a running phase. We're at the juncture of crawling and walking now."

The program establishes broad economic goals, and encourages the sharing of facilities and capabilities on a "pay as you go" basis for non-governmental entities performing commercial work at the Army's arsenals.

ASPI is being implemented at the Army's manufacturing arsenals - Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., and Watervliet Arsenal, N.Y. Congress has extended the program through September 2004.

The primary purposes of ASPI include encouraging the commercial use of arsenals; reducing production and ownership costs; incentivizing use by small and disadvantaged businesses; creating jobs and re-employment opportunities; maintaining skills and readiness; promoting free market competition; bringing buildings up to code; and tailoring facilities to tenant needs.

The number of ASPI tenant employees increased from three in fiscal year 2001 to 48 in fiscal year 2002, while revenues from ASPI tenants' rent increased from \$40,000 to \$100,000. Direct and indirect economic impacts resulting from ASPI were estimated at \$9.8 million.

Mr. Mapley said he's proud of the accomplishments of ASPI thus far.

"ASPI's success is growing at an increasing rate. Watervliet Arsenal has led the charge, and Rock Island Arsenal is rapidly embracing ASPI also," he said. "The Army benefits with decreased costs and key partners providing rental revenue for us at idle facilities. Communities benefit from job creation and retention as well. It's a win-win for all."

GSA to host Expo for government employees

The General Services Administration will hold a training extravaganza Expo in Orlando, Fla., May 11-13. This annual event is a training conference/tradeshow exposition designed for all government employees who make or impact procurement decisions.

At Expo 2004, you can choose from more than 200 hours of the latest training in Professional Procurement, Program Solutions, Travel and Transportation, e-Business, and more. More than 94 all-new sessions will be available this year in new topics, such as GSA Government Wide Acquisition Contracts, Performance-based Acquisition, and GSA Homeland Security Solutions.

The Expo is free. Training classes with the added benefit of CEU credits are available throughout all of Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon, and most of Thursday.

The tradeshow portion of Expo 2004 will showcase more than 700 of GSA's commercial partners (across 300,000 square feet), each featuring a wide range of products and services available through the GSA Schedules program. The exhibits will be open all day Wednesday and Thursday morning.

To register for this *free* training event or obtain up-to-date information, please log on to www.expo.gsa.gov or call (888) 272-5565. Questions can also be directed to Sara Johnson via e-mail at sara.johnson@gsa.gov or telephone at (312) 886-8959.

Child, Youth services teaming up to build kids' characters

Army Child & Youth Services has formally partnered with Character Counts, the nation's most widely used character development framework made up of Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

The Six Pillars are core ethical values that transcend cultural, socioeconomic, and religious differences as well as complement the Army Core Values. Army CYS and Character Counts are natural partners. Both organizations know that parents have the frontline responsibility for teaching values to their children, and both believe that other institutions play a vital supporting role.

The month of April has been designated the kick-off month for the Char-

acter Counts program. The kick-off and events taking place are part of an Army-wide movement to introduce Character Counts to children and youth on Army installations and they correspond with the Month of the Military Child. Information on Character Counts, Six Pillars wallet cards, and a bracelet with the colors of CC will be given to parents, FCC providers, and CYS staff.

A display case will be set up in the restaurant in bldg. 60 for everyone to view and learn about CC. Each week during April, SAS/YS and the CDC will learn about one of the Six Pillars of Character.

Parents have the opportunity to learn about Respect and Responsibility at Parent Education Meetings as well as a Character Counts overview at a



PAC Meeting.

Although Character Counts will only operate within CYS programs, the character building objectives of the program will be best achieved if there is a creative collaboration with broader communities on each installation.

It is our hope that the Character Counts program will be embraced throughout all programs and services at Rock Island Arsenal. For more information go to:

<http://www.charactercounts.org>

Child Abuse Prevention

Build positive relationships with your children

(Editor's note: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The following article is provided by the Arsenal's family Advocacy Program)

One of the most important things you do to prevent child abuse is to build a positive relationship with your own children.

Help your children feel loved and secure:

We can all take steps to improve our relationship with our children:

Make sure your children know you love them, even when they do something wrong.

Encourage your children. Praise their achievements and talents.

Spend time with your children. Do things together that you all enjoy.

Seek Help if You Need It

Problems such as unemployment or a child with special needs can add to family tension. And, parenting is a challenging job on its own. No one expects you to know how to do it all.

If you think stress may be affecting the way you treat your child, or if you just want the extra support that all parents need at some point, try the following:

Talk to someone...Tell a friend, healthcare provider or leader in your faith community about your concerns. Or, join a self-help group for parents.

Get counseling...Individual or family counseling can help you learn healthy ways to communicate with each other.

Take a parenting class...Nobody was born knowing how to be a good parent. Parenting classes can give you the skills you need to raise a happy, healthy child.

Accept help...You don't have to do it all. Accept offer of help from friends, family or neighbors. And don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.

Address marital tension

Children do best when they are

raised by parents in a stable and healthy marriage. Research has found successful couples do not have fewer differences or less to fight about, but they are able to handle their differences or disagreements. If you are experiencing tensions in your marriage, seek out the support you need to resolve it.

In observance of Child Abuse Prevention month, the Family Advocacy Program and Child and Youth Services are sponsoring a two part lunch and learn series on Children and Divorce given by Bob Koupal, Robert Young Mental Health Center, on April 15 and 27 in the ACS/EAP training room in building 110.

The classes will be held from 11 a.m. to noon. To register call ACS at 782-0829. Seating is limited. Duty time is not authorized. Employees must use annual leave or leave without pay.

TEE it up!

Golf driving range opened April 1



photo by Allen Marshall

The Cannon Flats Driving Range is located just outside the Moline entrance to the Island. It opened April 1.

The much anticipated opening of Cannon Flats Golf Driving Range has finally come. The range opened April 1 and is operating from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week. Golfers can purchase keys for the automated ball dispensing machine at the ITR Office located in Bldg 60.

A \$5 deposit for the programmable keys is required. The keys can be purchased for any dollar amount, and are reloadable. Golfers have the choice of purchasing a small (35 balls), medium (70 balls) or large (105) bucket of balls for \$3, \$4 and \$7 respectively. With every \$40 purchase, golfers will receive an extra \$10 credit on their key.

During April, the Cannon Flats Driving Range located at the Moline Gate is open as a self-serve vending operation. Visitors to the range can also purchase buckets directly from the ball dispenser. The dispenser accepts \$1 and \$5 bill, but does not give change.

The Grand Opening is scheduled for May 4. The range is open to all eligible MWR patrons and their families, including contractors and Arsenal Golf Club members.

In May, Cannon Flats Driving Range will also feature a snack bar that will be open for operation 7 days a week, and will be staffed Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Golfers can enjoy a wide variety of food and drink options such as all beef hot dogs, polish sausage and appetizers.

Gen. Schoomaker visit *continued from Page 1*

chief of staff in recent years. Gen. Eric Shinseki, who preceded Gen. Schoomaker as chief of staff, visited Rock Island Arsenal on May 24, 2001.

Gen. Schoomaker began his visit at RIA's Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center, where he addressed a group of employees gathered at the center's loading dock. During his remarks, Gen. Schoomaker thanked the employees for their work on manufacturing projects in support of ongoing military operations.

Gen. Schoomaker noted that soldiers are especially grateful for the Arsenal's fast response to a requirement for armor kits and armored doors used on HMMWVs and other vehicles. "You really ought to take a lot of pride in your-

selves in the great part you're playing in this global war on terrorism," Gen. Schoomaker said.

Following the manufacturing tour, Gen. Schoomaker went to a conference room at the Headquarters of the U.S. Army Field Support Command. There, he received a series of briefings on critical missions and programs carried out by the Command, including the management of conventional ammunition; the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP), which provides contractor support in theaters of operation; and the prepositioning of weapons and equipment, which proved crucial to the rapid advance made by U.S. forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom. *(Article provided by AFSC/JMC G-5 Public Communications Office)*

The Recycle Center at Bldg 106 is now accepting inkjet and laser cartridges along with cell phones. Place your used toner or cartridges in provided boxes next to recycle bins near you. Toner cartridges and cell phones (be sure to clear out the cell phone's address book by removing any saved phone numbers or other information saved on the cell phone) will be picked up as the recycle center staff runs their routes. If you have a large amount of toner cartridges, you may call the Recycle Center, 782-0383 or 782-1385, for a pick-up. The recycle center can also take your home inkjet or laser cartridges. Just call, and a prepaid mailer will be sent to you at work.

Pilates Core Plus: Pilates technique is a form of body conditioning that has proven to be as popular with athletes as it is with the casual exerciser. Pilates is a workout that emphasizes muscle toning, stretching and relaxation. "Pilates Core Plus" develops core abdominal strength and trains low back musculature to coordinate and maintain a stable core during movement and balance exercises. \$18-civilians, \$10-active military/dependents. Sign up now to ensure a spot. Call 782-6787.

Rock Island Arsenal Spring Clean-Up Week April 18-24: Please check over your areas at home and work to ensure a clutter-free working and home environment. Clutter kills and could be the difference between a safe working area or one damaged or destroyed by a fire. Items that haven't been used for some time should either be put into a long-term storage or disposed of.

ACS Lending Library is available to all RIA personnel and military. April's theme is "Month of the Military Family." Come to the library for your free handouts on "Service Families: Caring for Your Own While Serving Your Country", "Moving and the Military Family", "Stress and the Military Family", and "Making Your Marriage Stronger...When You're Married in the Service". Featured items for checkout this month are: "Married to the Military", "Will This Place Ever Feel Like Home?" and "Ruffles & Flourishes". The Library is open 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F. Bldg 110, SE corner, 1st floor. Call 782-0829.

Are you or someone you know being deployed? The mission of ACS is to support soldiers, civilian employees, and their families. Deployment is a stressful time and family readiness and support are key components during an extended separation. Waiting Families meetings are hosted the last Saturday of each month, and ongoing support is available as well. For more information about Mobilization and Deployment, or to be added to our mailing list of upcoming meetings, call 782-0816.

RIA MWR 2004 Spring Golf Tournament, May 7. Sign up begins April 7, at 5:30 a.m. (sorry, no early sign-ups). Double-shotgun start at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the RIA Golf Club. This is a 4-person preferred ball tournament. Categories are: Men's, Women's and Mixed (two men & two women). Cost is \$55 per person (includes golf, cart and meal at the Golf Club). Entry form is available on our website: www.riamwr.com For information, please contact the RIA Fitness Center at 2-6787.

Spring bridge cleanings - The **railroad** portion of the **Government Bridge** will be cleaned from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. on April 15 and 16, but no closure will be necessary. However, it will be closed to ALL pedestrian and vehicular traffic from 7 a.m.- 4 p.m. April 17 and 18. **Moline Bridge:** 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on April 19 and 20, the bridge may be reduced to one lane traffic. **Rock Island Viaduct** will be washed from 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on April 21 and 22. The viaduct may be reduced to one lane traffic.

Technology Exposition to Showcase New Products April 29. Exhibitors from companies including 3M Visual Systems and Canon USA will be available to demonstrate their products and field questions. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Club, Building 60. A complete list of exhibitors and a pre-registration form are available online at www.fedpage.com. For more information, contact Kevin Glatstein at (800) 878-2940, Ext. 220, or via E-mail at kevin@fbcd.db.com